

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q85314

Makoto HIRAI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/521,573

Group Art Unit: 3634

Confirmation No.: 4018

Examiner: Jerry E. Redman

Filed: January 18, 2005

For: DRIVING APPARATUS AND DOOR CLOSER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/521,573

Attorney Docket No.: Q85314

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

  
Alan J. Kasper  
Registration No. 25,426

Date: February 15, 2007

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO<br><br><b><u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u></b><br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <i>Complete if Known</i> |                  |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/521,573       |
|   |   |    |   | Confirmation Number      | 4018             |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | January 18, 2005 |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Makoto HIRAI     |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 3634             |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Jerry E. Redman  |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | Q85314           |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                 |                                      |                                |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials*    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|                       |                       | Number          | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |                                |   |
|                       |                       | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                       | US              |                                      |                                |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                           |                     |                                      |                                |   |                          |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |                     |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |                                |   |                          |
|                          |                       | DE                        | 196 17 979          | A1                                   | 11-13-1997                     | Garny Sicherheitstechnik GmbH                   | No                       |
|                          |                       | DE                        | 199 55 883          | A1                                   | 05-31-2001                     | Kiekert AG                                      | No                       |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials*              | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
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| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
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